

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Revision of the Commission's Rules)	CC Docket No. 94-102
To Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced)	
911 Emergency Calling Systems)	
)	

**Petition of Iowa Wireless Services, L.P. and related licensees for Waiver of
The E911 Phase II Automatic Location Identification Implementation Rules**

Iowa Wireless Services, L.P. and the related licensees listed in Attachment A ("Iowa Wireless"), pursuant to section 1.3 of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") rules, and the Commission's recent public notices,¹ hereby submits a request for waiver of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 20.18(e)-(h).

I. Introduction and Summary

Iowa Wireless is a small Personal Communications Services ("PCS") licensee providing service in rural eastern Iowa and western Illinois. Iowa Wireless utilizes GSM technology throughout its PCS network. Iowa wireless is affiliated with VoiceStream Wireless, LLC (VoiceStream) and will implement

¹ CC Docket No. 94-102, Public Notice, FCC 01-302, Oct.12, 2000, Commission Establishes Schedule for E911 Phase II requests by Small and Mid-Sized Wireless Carriers, and CC Docket No. 94-102, Public Notice, DA 01-2459, Oct. 19, 2001, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Provides Guidance on Filings By Small and Mid-Sized Carriers Seeking Relief From Wireless E911 Phase II Automatic Location Identification Rules.

the same NSS/E-OTD E911 Phase II solution as VoiceStream². The Commission in CC Docket No. 94-102 Fourth Memorandum Opinion And Order, recognized that the NSS/E-OTD approach may be the only solution available in the near term for GSM systems.³ The Commission granted VoiceStream a limited waiver and approved a specific Phase II implementation schedule⁴. Iowa Wireless will not be able to meet the Phase II implementation schedule the Commission approved for VoiceStream. Iowa Wireless ask that the Commission consider the special circumstances of a small rural carrier and grant Iowa Wireless the following requested relief.

II Justification for Waiver

Iowa Wireless has obtained information from its vendor, NOKIA, regarding the availability of the software upgrades and network elements needed to implement NSS/E-OTD technology. According to the latest schedule provided by NOKIA, none of the network elements needed to implement a NSS/E-OTD PHASE II solution is currently available. NOKIA is in the process of testing the reliability of the technology and does not expect all of the needed elements to be available until May 15, 2002.⁵ Moreover, in recent conversations NOKIA stated that the current testing is being conducted in geographic areas far more populated than the areas of rural Iowa and Illinois

² Third Semi-Annual Report of VoiceStream Wireless Corporation on its E911 Implementation Plan

³ Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order, at ¶ 56.

⁴ Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order at ¶ 60

⁵ Latest estimate provided to Iowa Wireless on November 15th 2001. NOKIA also noted that the schedule was subject to change.

served by Iowa Wireless. It is not clear that the NSS/E-OTD equipment available on May 15, 2002 will have undergone testing in rural areas. Iowa Wireless has discussed with NOKIA the possibility of conducting tests of the NSS/E-OTD technology for accuracy in rural Iowa. Iowa Wireless believes it is not in the best interest of the public or the company to implement NSS/E-OTD technology until it has been fully tested in rural areas comparable to those served by Iowa Wireless.

In order to have coverage in many of the rural areas of Iowa, customers must utilize digital handsets that are equipped with analogue sleeves. NOKIA has indicated there is no immediate Phase II ALI solution for these customers.⁶ Often rural customers purchase analogue sleeves to have the capability to dial 911 where digital coverage is not available. It will be difficult for Iowa Wireless to upgrade its handsets if those handsets will not provide customers the maximum coverage previously experienced. For this reason, the proposed timetable reflects a realistic schedule to achieve expected penetration rates. Should compliant equipment, that meets the needs of Iowa Wireless's customers, become available sooner Iowa wireless will make every effort to accelerate the proposed handset penetration schedule.

The cost to implement Phase II ALI technology is significant for small regional carriers like Iowa Wireless. Iowa Wireless does not have the resources to implement an untested technology, only later to find that

⁶ November 15, 2001 conversation with NOKIA representative, Debra Florence and Steve Zimmer of Iowa Wireless

technology must be replaced. Iowa Wireless requests that the Commission consider the special circumstances that:

1. the required technology is not commercially available.
2. the technology must be tested in a rural geographic area before it can be implemented and.
3. the handset technology has not been developed to meet the needs of rural customers that now utilize analogue sleeves.

Iowa Wireless is committed to implementing Phase II expeditiously when fully tested NSS/E-OTD technology is commercially available.

III Implementation Schedule

Based upon information provided by our vendor NOKIA, Iowa Wireless has developed an implementation schedule that optimistically assumes the vendor will meet its timetable and allows additional time for testing in rural areas. Should the required technology be available sooner, Iowa Wireless commits to implementing Phase II on an accelerated schedule. Iowa Wireless believes the following proposed schedule realistically reflects the availability of compliant NSS/EOTD technology for a small rural carrier.

- Implement all software and switch upgrades necessary to implement Phase II by the end of the third quarter of 2002.
- Implement NSS/E-OTD hardware by the end of the second quarter of 2003.⁷

⁷ This assumes fully tested NSS/E-OTD technology is commercially available.

- By the end of the second quarter 2003 ensure that 50 percent of all new handsets activated are E-OTD capable.⁸
- By the end of the fourth quarter 2004 ensure that 100 percent of all new handsets activated are E-OTD capable.
- By the end of the fourth quarter 2004 ensure that all Phase II ALI capable handsets comply with an accuracy standard of 50 meters for 67 percent of calls and 150 meters for 95% of calls.
- By the end of fourth quarter 2006 ensure 95 percent penetration rate of ALI capable handsets.
- Report the progress of NSS/E-OTD technology deployment semi-annually until Phase II implementation is completed.

IV Conclusion

Iowa wireless has successfully completed implementation of Phase I in Iowa. In Illinois requests for Phase I have been received and implementation should be completed before the end of the year. At this time Iowa Wireless has not received a request for Phase II implementation. Iowa Wireless is working cooperatively with both Iowa and Illinois emergency management personnel to complete Phase II implementation on a schedule that reflects our mutual desire to provide E911 Phase II ALI as soon as technically feasible and also considers the special circumstances of both parties.

⁸ This assumes that NOKIA will have compliant handsets that meet the needs of rural customers available by the end of the first quarter 2002.

Iowa Wireless has provided the Commission with a full explanation and justification for the proposed Phase II implementation schedule. Iowa Wireless submits that its proposed implementation schedule meets the Commission's requirement for a clear path to full compliance. Iowa Wireless respectfully requests the Commission grant a waiver that will allow it to implement Phase II according to the proposed schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Iowa Wireless Services L.P.

By _____
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Attachment A – Iowa Wireless Services Affiliates

TRS Number	IWS Consortiums	TRS Number	IWS Partners
Benton/Linn Wireless L.L.C.		801006	Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Co.
806835	Atkins Telephone Co., Inc.	801036	Bernard Telephone Co., Inc.
801720	Farmers Mut. Tele. Coop-Shellsburg	801039	Ruthven L.L.D., Inc
801171	Palo Coop. Telephone Assn.	801042	Dixon Telephone Company
804135	Prairieburg Telephone Co., Inc.	801097	Goldfield Telephone Company
801654	Coon Creek Telephone Company	801129	Webb-Dickens Telephone Corp.
801711	Keystone Farmers Coop. Tele. Co.	801141	LaMotte Telephone Company, Inc.
801156	Van Home Coop. Telephone Co.	801159	Swisher Telephone Company
803637	Springville Coop. Tele. Assn., Inc.	801282	Cooperative Telephone Company
806493	Martelle Coop. Telephone Assn.	801525	South Slope Coop. Tele. Co., Inc.
Carroll County Wireless, LLP		801603	Minerva Valley Telephone Co., Inc.
809875	Breda Telephone Corporation	801606	Montezuma Mutual Telephone Co.
806545	Arcadia Telephone Cooperative	801633	Butler-Bremer Mutual Telephone Co.
801018	Templeton Telephone Company	801807	Modern Coop. Telephone Co.
Cedar County PCS LLC		801885	United Farmers Telephone Co.
801594	Clarence Telephone Company, Inc.	802161	Palmer Mutual Telephone Co.
801630	Mechanicsville Telephone Co.	802165	Clarksville Telephone Company
Community Digital Wireless		802350	Webster-Calhoun Coop. Telephone Assn.
804732	Northeast Iowa Tele. Co.	802398	DC Communications
802305	EBTC	802422	Norway Rural Telephone Company
804564	Hawkeye Telephone Co.	802428	Northwest Iowa Telephone Company
806922	Oran Mutual Telephone Company	802452	Ayshire Farmers Mutual Tele. Co.
803838	Readlyn Telephone Co.	802500	Jefferson Tele. Co.
Fibercomm LC		803160	Center Junction Tel. Co., Inc.
807288	C-M-L Telephone Cooperative Assn.	803628	River Valley Telephone Coop.
802053	Hill Telephone Company, Inc.	804405	Shell Rock Telephone Co.
804468	Hospers Telephone Company	804414	Corn Belt Telephone Company
801123	Mutual Telephone Company	804441	Woolstock Mutual Tele. Assn.
801126	Northern Iowa Telephone Company	804612	Northwest Telephone Coop. Assn.
	Peoples Telephone Company	804825	Onslow Coop. Telephone Assn.
803166	West Iowa Telephone Company	805404	Miller Telephone Company
807036	Western Iowa Telephone Assn.	805617	Sac County Mutual Telephone Co.
FWC Communications		805641	Danville Mutual Telephone Co.
801903	Winnebago Coop. Telephone Assn.	805707	Ventura Telephone Co., Inc.
805704	Clear Lake Independent Tele. Co.	805863	Farmers Tele. Co. - Nora Springs
805860	Farmers Mutual Tele. Co.-Nora Springs	805908	Massena Telephone Company
PST Digital, LLC		806691	Radcliffe Telephone Co., Inc.
	Pella Cooperative Electric Association	807087	Rockwell Telecom, Inc.
809746	Sully Telephone Association	807114	Ellsworth Coop. Telephone Co.
The Guthrie Group		807303	Stratford Mutual Telephone Co.
809740	Casey Cable Company	807981	Cooperative Telephone Exchange
809120	Coon Valley Cellular	808191	Fenton Coop. Tele. Co.
808659	Panora Coop. Tele. Assn., Inc.	808257	Lone Rock Coop. Telephone Co.
811454	Prairie Telephone Co., Inc.	808578	Farmers Tel. Co.-Batavia
Wapsi Wireless		808774	The Burt Telephone Company
801351	Cascade	808780	Titonka Telephone Company
801936	Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Co.	808854	Brooklyn Mutual Telephone Co.
806640	CST Communications, Inc.	808878	Olin Telephone Co., Inc.
811438	Farmers & Businessmen's Tele. Co.	808974	Farmers Mutual Tele. Co.-Stanton
808964	Grand Mound Coop. Telephone Assn.	809020	Baldwin-Nashville Telephone Co.
801120	Preston Telephone Company	809068	Hubbard Coop. Telephone Assn.
807225	Miles Coop. Telephone Assn.	809078	Ogden Telephone Company
Washington County PCS Consortium		809080	Dumont Telephone Company
809780	Kalona Co-op Telephone Company	809142	Andrew Telephone Company
809046	Sharon Telephone Co.	809204	Schaller Telephone Co.
801846	Wellman Coop. Telephone Assn.	809238	Barnes City Cooperative Tele. Co.
		809630	Scranton Telephone Company
		809808	Jordon-Soldier Valley Coop., Tele.
		811442	Lehigh Services, Inc.
		811460	Wilton Telephone Company
		814653	Huxley Cooperative Telephone Co.
		814895	Evertex Incorporated
		814990	Universal Communications of Allison, Inc.
		817364	Rolling Hills Communications Inc.
		817416	Mid Iowa Telephone Coop.